

This proposal is a really bad idea. Flying is already a frequently awful experience. People talking on cell phones in public places are frequently almost unbearable to a large percentage of the population. Combining the two would have far more negative consequences than positive. It has potential to reduce the number of people who fly. It would certainly dramatically increase the number of verbal and physical altercations that take place on airplanes. This would decrease the safety of flying, increase stress and on passengers and crew, increase the workload of security, police, air marshals, flight attendants and pilots. I can't imagine how anyone would think it's workable to have dozens of people talking on cell phones at the same time in a cramped space where people are trapped. Every person who gets on the phone will cause everyone else to have to speak louder to be heard. People will hear less of the safety instructions because they will be distracted by their phone conversations and others will not be able to hear. I can envision large numbers of people being forced to wear earplugs and headphones to drown out the talking thus not being able to hear safety instructions. The airline industry is already in bad shape, flying is already unpleasant, and misuse of cell phones in public is an incredibly rude practice. I encourage the FCC not to allow this synergistic time bomb to play out.